

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-58 (Canceled)

Claim 59 (Currently Amended)

In combination, a substrate processing apparatus and a substrate, wherein a processing liquid is supplied to one major surface of a substrate for a predetermined substrate processing, comprising:_____

three or more support members disposed in said processing apparatus, which abut a peripheral edge of said substrate and accordingly support said substrate;

said substrate having a notch at said peripheral edge of said substrate;

an atmosphere blocking member which faces another major surface of said substrate and is spaced away from said substrate;

said atmosphere blocking member having a radius which is smaller than a radius of said substrate by a radial width of a the notch at a the peripheral edge of said substrate, and is so constructed and arranged that a peripheral edge ~~area thereof~~ of said atmosphere blocking member is not exposed around said substrate through the notch;

wherein a substrate-facing surface of said atmosphere blocking member which faces the other major surface of said substrate becomes closer to the other major surface of said substrate with a distance toward said peripheral edge of said atmosphere blocking member;

~~said substrate-facing surface of said atmosphere blocking member is smaller in plan view than said substrate by a radial width of a notch at a peripheral edge of said substrate, and said atmosphere blocking member is so constructed and arranged that a peripheral edge area of said substrate-facing surface thereof is not exposed around said substrate through the notch;~~

said three or more support members being disposed at a said peripheral edge of said atmosphere blocking member; and

a gas supplying unit which supplies an atmosphere gas to a space which is created between said atmosphere blocking member and said substrate.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented)

The combination of claim 59, whereby the atmosphere blocking member prevents a mist from passing through said notch from said one major surface of said substrate, to said other major surface of said substrate.

Claim 61 (Previously Presented)

The combination of claim 59, wherein said atmosphere blocking member and said notched substrate cooperate to prevent a mist generated by liquid processing of said one major surface of said substrate, from passing through said notch and reaching said other major surface of said substrate.